

### DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I (we) hereby declare that my (our) residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my (our) name; I (we) believe that I am (we are) the original, first and sole inventor(s) (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention (Design, if applicable) entitled:

#### A FILTER DEVICE FOR FILTERING A LIQUID

The specification of which (check one):  is attached hereto;  was filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
As application serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ and was amended on (or amended through) \_\_\_\_\_  
(if applicable); was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ as International Application (PCT) No. \_\_\_\_\_  
And amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable). I (we) hereby state that I (we) have reviewed and understand  
The contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment(s) referred to above.  
I (we) acknowledge the duty to disclose information known by me (us) to be material to the patentability of my (our) invention  
in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a). I (we) hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title  
35, United States Code § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also  
identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application  
which priority is claimed.

I (We) hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code § 119 of any foreign application(s) for  
patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's  
certificate having a filing date before that of the application which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application(s) Priority Claimed

2,301,992 (Number)	CANADA (Country)	March 23, 2000 (Day/Month/Year Filed)	X YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

I (we) hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below  
and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application  
in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code § 112, I (we) acknowledge the duty to disclose  
material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the  
prior art application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

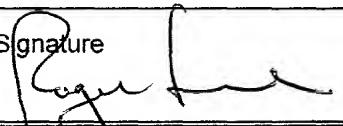
(Appl. No.) (Filing date) (Status – Patented, Pending or Abandoned)

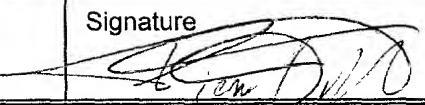
(Appl. No.) (Filing date) (Status – Patented, Pending or Abandoned)

I (we) hereby declare that all statements made herein of my (our) own knowledge are true and that all statements made  
on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful  
false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the  
United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued  
thereon.

**POWER OF ATTORNEY:** I (we) hereby appoint as my (our) attorneys, with full powers of substitution and revocation, to  
prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Garabed NAHABEDIAN (Reg. No. 29,507); Thierry ORLHAC (Reg. No. 29,497); Alain PROVOST (Reg. No. 33,143),  
Nathalie JODOIN (Reg. No. 41,558), Louis-Pierre GRAVELLE (Reg. No. 44,429) and Luc MORIN (Reg. No. 44,430), whose  
professional address is 55 St Jacques, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H2Y 3X2.

Full name of First or Sole Inventor Roger LACASSE	Citizenship Canadian
Residence Address-Street 133, Côte de la Mer	Post Office Address-Street 133, Côte de la Mer
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State or Country Zip Québec, CANADA, G0L 1Y0	State or Country Zip Québec, CANADA, G0L 1Y0
Date 19/03/2001	Signature 

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State or Country Zip Québec, CANADA, G0L 1Y0	State or Country Zip Québec, CANADA, G0L 1Y0
Date 19/03/2001	Signature 

Full name of third Inventor Henri OUELLET	Citizenship Canadian
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City Rivière-du-Loup	City Rivière-du-Loup
State or Country Zip Québec, CANADA, G5R 2G5	State or Country Zip Québec, CANADA G5R 2G5
Date <i>01/03/19</i>	Signature 

Full name of fourth Inventor Bernard JUNEAU	Citizenship Canadian
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City Ste-Foy	City Ste-Foy
State or Country Zip Québec, CANADA, G1X 4T9	State or Country Zip Québec, CANADA, G1X 4T9
Date 19 March 2001	Signature 

Applicant or Patentee: Roger LACASSE et al.  
Serial or Patent No.: \_\_\_\_\_ No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed or Issued: \_\_\_\_\_  
For: A FILTER DEVICE FOR FILTERING A LIQUID

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS  
(37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(c)) - SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN**

I hereby declare that I am:

the owner of the small business concern identified below:  
 an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

NAME OF CONCERN: PREMIER TECH 2000 LTÉE

ADDRESS OF CONCERN: 1, AVENUE PREMIER, C.P. 3500, RIVIÈRE-DU-Loup, QUÉBEC, CANADA, G5R 4C9

I hereby declare that the above identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 13 CFR 121.1301 through 121.1305, and reproduced in 37 CFR 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees under sections 41 (a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the invention, entitled A FILTER DEVICE FOR FILTERING A LIQUID  
by inventor(s) Roger LACASSE et al.

described in:

the specification filed herewith  
 application serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
 patent No. \_\_\_\_\_ issued on \_\_\_\_\_

If the rights held by the above identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights in the invention is listed below\* and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who could not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person made the invention, or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a non-profit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

\*NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS

INDIVIDUAL       SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN       NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

See attached sheet for additional person(s), concern(s) or organization(s)

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b)).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING: MARTIN NOËL

TITLE OF PERSON OTHER THAN OWNER V-P FINANCE & ADM.

ADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING 133 RUE DES ÎLES, N.D.-D4-PORTAGE, QC

SIGNATURE Mart Noel DATE: 2001/03/19

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of Roger LACASSE et al.

Assignee: PREMIER TECH 2000 LTÉE

Application filed: herewith

For: A FILTER DEVICE FOR FILTERING A LIQUID

**ASSOCIATE POWER OF ATTORNEY**

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
U.S.A.

SIR:

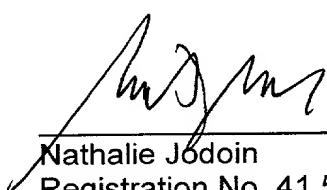
Please recognize as my associate attorneys in the above-identified application Ronald St. Onge (Reg. No. 20,137); Louis H. Reens (Reg. No. 22,588); Thaddius J. Carvis (Reg. No. 26,110); Gene S. Winter (Reg. No. 28,352); William J. Speranza (Reg. No. 26,340); James R. Cartiglia (Reg. No. 30,738); Stephen P. McNamara (Reg. No. 32,745); and Wesley W. Whitmyer, Jr. (Reg. No. 33,558).

Please send all correspondence to:

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RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

BY:

  
Nathalie Jodoin  
Registration No. 41,558

Date: 21 March 2001